

FLASH
GORDON

GOLD

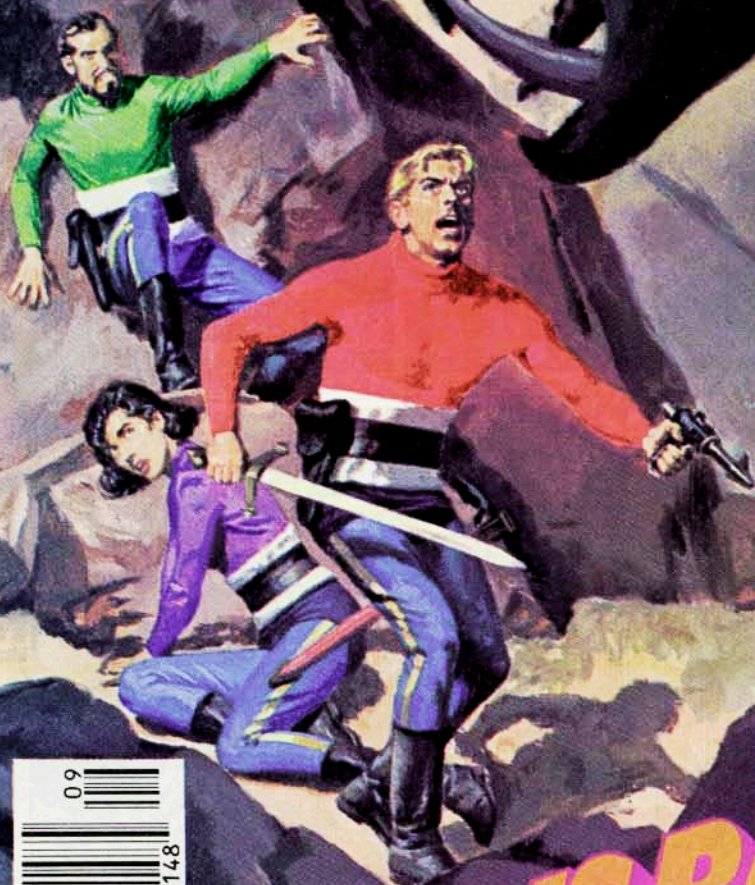


KEY®

90148-809

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FLASH GORDON



FLASH IS BACK!

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FLASH GORDON

RETURN TO MONGO

CREATED
BY
ALEX
RAYMOND

SOMEWHERE IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM, A SMALL STAR CRUISER ARCS GRACEFULLY INTO PLANET-FALL ON A WORLD CALLED MONGO!

ABOARD THE CRUISER ARE FLASH GORDON, DR. HANS ZARKOV AND DALE ARDEN! THREE YEARS BEFORE, THEY LEFT A MONGO UNITED IN PEACE!

THEY ARE ABOUT TO RETURN—TO A NIGHTMARE!

WE SHOULD BE EXPECTED! I'VE BEEN BEAMING STRONG ELECTROMAGNETIC TRANSMISSIONS FOR MOST OF OUR JOURNEY!

SEE IF KING BARIN HAS ANY COMMUNION CHANNELS OPEN, FLASH!

RIGHT!

TEXT:
JOHN WARNER
ART:
CARLOS GARZÓN

90148-1009
FLASH GORDON #14-767

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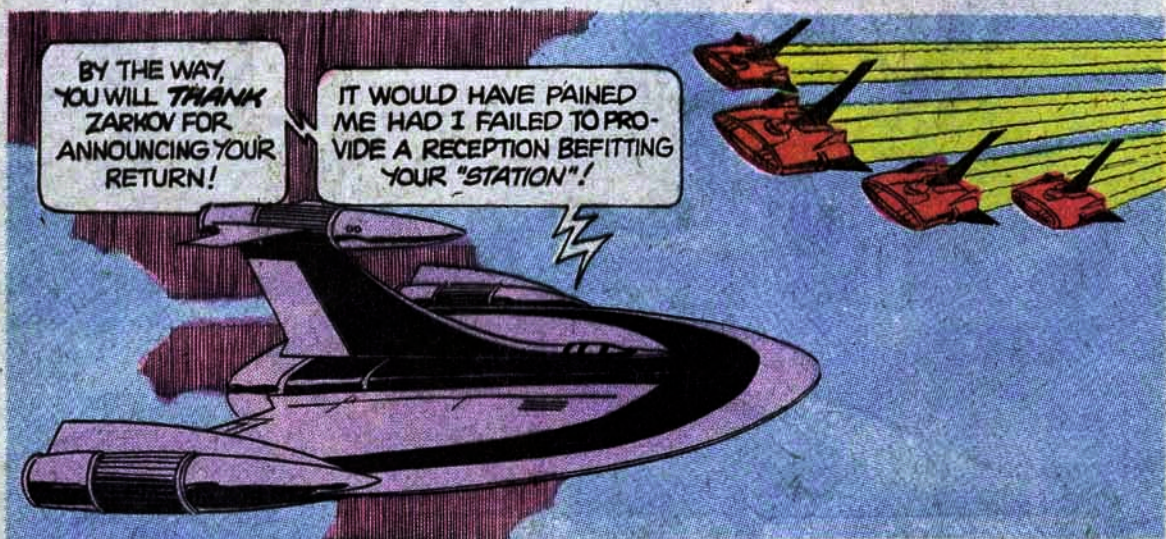
NAVIGATION TELEMETRY LOCKED IN FOR LANDING SEQUENCE! DALE, GIVE ME A READOUT CHECK!

HOLD ON! WE'VE GOT A TRANSMISSION FROM MINGO CITY! LET ME ADJUST!



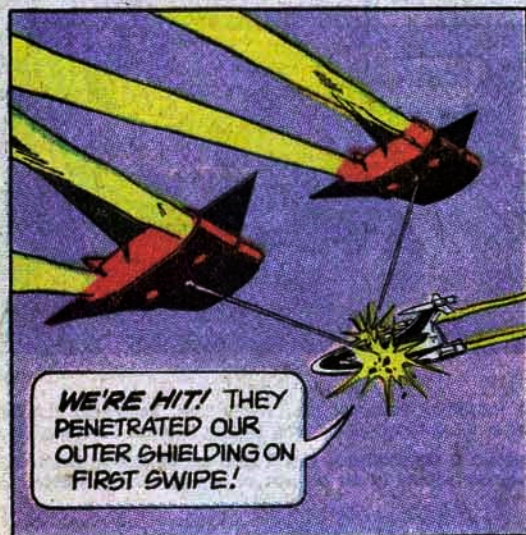
MING! BUT YOU'RE IN EXILE!

YOU SOUND SURPRISED, GORDON! WAS THERE EVER ANY DOUBT THAT THERE IS ONLY *ONE* TRUE EMPEROR OF MONGO?



BY THE WAY, YOU WILL *THANK* ZARKOV FOR ANNOUNCING YOUR RETURN!

IT WOULD HAVE PAINED ME HAD I FAILED TO PROVIDE A RECEPTION BEFITTING YOUR "STATION"!



WE'RE HIT! THEY PENETRATED OUR OUTER SHIELDING ON FIRST SWIPE!



DALE, CUT ALL BUT ESSENTIAL TELEMETRY ON YOUR SIDE!... WE'RE OVERHEATING!

ZARKOV, GET READY! WE'LL USE THE ROCKETS TO STABILIZE AND ROLL RIGHT THROUGH THEIR FORMATION!



IT'S TAKING ALL
WE'VE GOT!

JUST KEEP IT COMING,
ZARKOV! WE'RE MORE
MANEUVERABLE THAN
MING'S FLEET!



NO GOOD, FLASH--
SYSTEMS ARE FAIL-
ING
FAST!

IT'S GOING TO
TAKE OUR LAST
RESERVES
JUST TO
CUSHION OUR
FALL!

BUT THE
MOMENT WE'RE
DOWN, MING'S
GOONS WILL BE
ALL OVER US!



THEN WE'LL HAVE TO PLAY A LONG
SHOT! KEEP ALL POWER SHUT DOWN--
EVERYTHING! **WE'LL DIVE!**

BUT IF WE DON'T
COMPENSATE--

TRUST ME, ZARKOV!



GORDON IS IN FIRE-
FALL! SHIP IS DEAD--
NO SYSTEMS
FUNCTIONING!

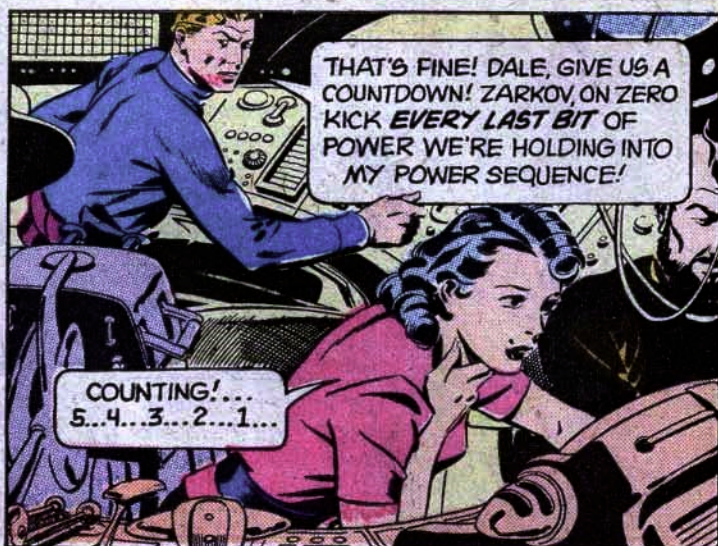


**VERY GOOD! ORDER THE
FLEET TO RETURN! TAKE
ONE SCOUT AND FOLLOW
GORDON DOWN!**

**I WANT THE CRASH SITE
LEVELED AND IRRADIATED!
NO SURVIVORS!**

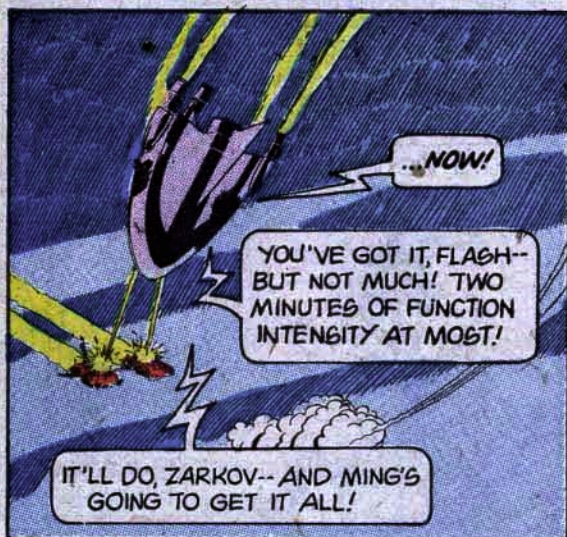


YOU WERE RIGHT, FLASH!
MING WAS TAKEN IN! HE'S
LEFT ONLY TWO SCOUTS TO
FOLLOW US DOWN!



THAT'S FINE! DALE, GIVE US A
COUNTDOWN! ZARKOV, ON ZERO
KICK *EVERY LAST BIT* OF
POWER WE'RE HOLDING INTO
MY POWER SEQUENCE!

COUNTING!...
5...4...3...2...1...



...NOW!

YOU'VE GOT IT, FLASH--
BUT NOT MUCH! TWO
MINUTES OF FUNCTION
INTENSITY AT MOST!

IT'LL DO, ZARKOV-- AND MING'S
GOING TO GET IT ALL!



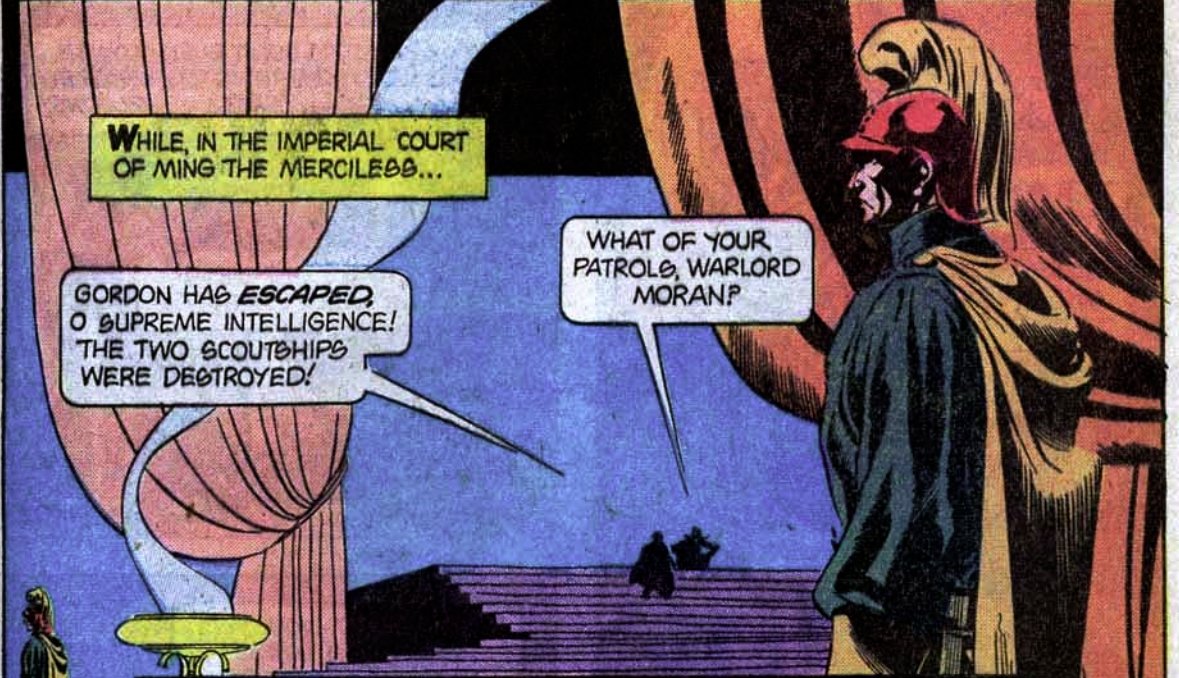
THAT'S IT! I DON'T THINK WE COULD
POWER A FLASHLIGHT WITH WHAT'S
LEFT!

STRAP IN
FOR CRASH!



SHREEEEK!






WHILE, IN THE IMPERIAL COURT
OF MING THE MERCILESS...


GORDON HAS **ESCAPED**,
O SUPREME INTELLIGENCE!
THE TWO SCOUTSHIPS
WERE DESTROYED!

WHAT OF YOUR
PATROLS, WARLORD
MORAN?




THEY REPORT NOTHING! I HAVE
FAILED! I AM AT YOUR MERCY,
O GREAT MING!

YES, WARLORD!
BUT YOU WILL
LIVE TO TRY AGAIN,
FOR YOU ARE
LIKE THE SON I
NEVER HAD! AND
YOU WILL BRING
ME FLASH GORDON!



BUT MARK ME WELL--
I NO LONGER WANT HIM
DEAD! THAT IS TOO
LITTLE PAYMENT!

FOR, BY TAO, I WILL
SEE FLASH GORDON
MY SERVANT, **BROKEN**
AND **HUMBLE** AT MY
FEET!



AND DEEP WITHIN THE MYSTERIOUS
CAVE KINGDOM...

IT DOESN'T LOOK
LIKE ANY OF THE
CAVE SYSTEMS
WE'RE FAMILIAR
WITH!

IT'S UNIQUE! THE
WALLS ARE PHOSPHOR-
LIKE AND THE CRYSTALS
CATCH AND INTENSIFY
THE LIGHT!

FLASH...
ZARKOV--
SOUNDS!





LIZARD MEN! THEN THOSE ROCKS DIDN'T FALL BY ACCIDENT!

YOU COME WITH USSS! GO TO SSS-CITY!

PRISSONERS!



LIKE BLAZES! I HAD A TASTE OF LIZARD HOSPITALITY BEFORE... I WASN'T VERY IMPRESSED!

DALE, GET ZARKOV OUT OF HERE! I'LL FOLLOW!



THAK!

ONHH!

FLASH! YOU WERE TOO DISTRACTED WITH ME TO USE YOUR BLASTER! I'M SORRY!

NOT AS SORRY AS THESE LIZARDS WILL BE WHEN I GET THE CHANCE!



WE'VE NO CHOICE BUT SURRENDER--BUT THAT DOESN'T KEEP ME FROM DOING A LITTLE CONTINGENCY PLANNING...

... IF WE SURVIVE LONG ENOUGH TO USE IT!



WHILE ABOVE, ON THE SURFACE...

MING IS FURIOUS-- YET UNDERNEATH IT ALL HE REJOICES!

HIS RETURN TO EMPEROR OF ALL MONGO WOULD BE HOLLOW WITHOUT THE DEFEAT OF FLASH GORDON!



ARMEMAN, I'M KEEPING THE MAIN
UNITS UP HERE! TOO EASY TO BRING
ROCKS DOWN OR ALERT THE
MUTANTS WITH A LOT OF MEN!

I'LL JUST TAKE
ZEPH COMPANY!



KEEP THIS ENTRANCE
WELL MANNED AND
DEPLOY THE REST OF
THE MEN IN CIRCLE
RECONNAISSANCE,
JUST IN CASE!



ONE HOUR LATER, DEEP
WITHIN A STRANGE DOMAIN
OF SHADOWS AND
PERPETUAL NIGHT ..

YES, WE NOTICED!
ONLY *WHOSE?* THESE
MUDDLE-BRAINED
LIZARDS SURE DID
NOT BUILD IT!

THISSS ISSS
SSS-CITY!

FLASH, I THINK WE MUST HAVE CRASHED
ON MONGO'S "LOST CONTINENT"!

THIS MUST BE
A REMNANT OF
THE ANCIENT
RACE SPOKEN
OF IN THE
ANCIENT SCROLL
TEXTS!



IT'S SO
EMPTY
HERE!

FROM WHAT I'VE
SEEN, THIS TRIBE
OF LIZARD MEN IS
VERY SMALL!

A SMALL TRIBE, YES-- BUT
BLESSED BY THE SECRETS
OF ANCIENT GODS!

I AM SILITH, QUEEN OF
THE CAVERNS OF NIGHT,
GODDESS OF THE LIGHT
BEYOND THIS EVER CON-
STANT DARKNESS!



YOU'RE
NOT LIKE
THE
OTHERS!

ZOR, TAKE THE OLDER MAN AND THE
WOMAN OUT. THE OLDER MAN MUST BE
PREPARED-- BUT HAVE THE WOMAN
EXECUTED!

YESSS,
QUEEN! AND
THE GOLDEN
HAIR--

HE WILL
STAY!



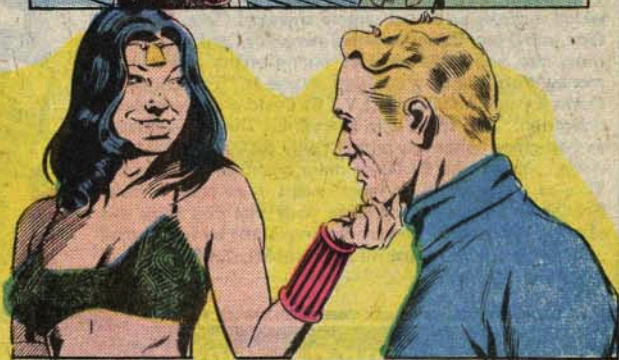
WAIT! WHERE
ARE YOU TAKING
THEM? WE MEAN
YOU NO HARM,
WE ONLY
SEEK
REFUGE!

FLASH!



AND REFUGE YOU HAVE FOUND. DO
NOT WORRY ABOUT YOUR FRIENDS--
BUT WE MUST TAKE PRECAUTIONS!

COME! I HAVE
SOMETHING TO
SHOW YOU!





IN THE NEXT
MOMENT, A
DRAPERY PARTS
TO REVEAL...

THE SACRED ORB...IN HERE SLUMBERS
THE CHILD OF THE GODS WAITING TO BE
BORN!

ITS RADIATIONS
CHANGED ME
FROM ONE OF
THEM-- DULL-
WITTED ANDRO-
GENS, NEITHER
MALE NOR FEMALE
--TO WHAT I AM!



I AM DESTINED TO BECOME MOTHER OF
A **NEW** RACE WHICH SHALL EMERGE
FROM THIS ONE!

WE SHALL RISE UP AND RULE IN
THE SUN OF THE WORLD ABOVE!



AND
YOU
SHALL
RULE
WITH
ME!

WHA--
MMPH...



NOT A CHANCE, LIZARD LADY! THOSE
ARE YOUR DELUSIONS-- DON'T INVOLVE
ME!

NOW TELL ME WHERE
YOU'VE TAKEN
DALE AND ZARKOV
OR--



UHH! BLASTED
GUARDS! THEY
ARE TOO
STRONG TO FIGHT
WITHOUT
WEAPONS!

YOU STUPID
FOOL! I
OFFERED YOU
GODHOOD--
BUT YOU
HAVE
CHOSEN
DEATH!

RETURN TO MONGO
PART 2: *MINDLIFE!*

AS QUEEN SILITH TURNS THE WALL BEHIND THE ORB OPENING UP REVEALING A LONG PASSAGE! AT THE END OF THAT PASSAGE...

I OFFERED YOU
DESTINY! BUT YOU
HAVE CHOSEN THIS
-- *MINDLIFE!*

ZARKOV!

BE STILL! YOU CAN'T
HELP HIM! THE ORB
NEEDS MINDS TO
NOURISH IT! IT IS
MY SACRED TASK!

YOU CAN SEE
THAT MY SUB-
JECTS ARE
SOMEWHAT LESS
THAN ADEQUATE!

WE DO CAPTURE AN OCCASIONAL
SURFACE DWELLER! BUT IT WOULD
BE A SHAME TO WASTE *YOU!*

TAKE HIM AWAY TO
RECONSIDER! INCIDENTLY
THE WOMAN YOU
CAME WITH...



"...HAS BEEN EXECUTED..."

NO! I DON'T UNDERSTAND! WHY?

SSSILITH COMMANDSSS!

PRIESSSTESSS
MUSSST BE ONLY
FEMALE--GODSSS
DEMAND!



SSSILITH COM--
ARRAKK!

ZEEK!



OH, THANK HEAVEN!

I'M AFRAID
YOU'LL
HAVE TO
THANK
MING!

HE STILL WANTS
DALE ARDEN FOR
HIS EMPRESS!



NOW, TELL ME WHERE
FLASH GORDON IS!

I WILL NOT!
BUT HE'S IN
TROUBLE,
HE--

OH, FOR PITY'S SAKE--WHAT'S
HAPPENING? HOW DID A MONSTER LIKE
MING GET BACK INTO POWER?

SIMPLY, MING IS POWER! WHEN MING
WAS DEPOSED, THERE WAS NO ONE
WHO UNDERSTOOD THE POLITICS OF
RUNNING A WHOLE PLANET OF TINY
KINGDOMS!

THINGS JUST FELL
APART AND, WHILE
KINGDOMS WASTED
THEIR TIME WITH
JURISDICTIONAL
DISPUTES, MING
REGROUPED AND
STEPPED BACK IN!
IT WAS FOR THE
BEST!



BY THE WAY, DON'T WORRY ABOUT
YOUR FRIENDS--KING BARIN, QUEEN
AURA AND THEIR SON!

THEY ARE ONLY IN EXILE! EVEN
MING WON'T EXECUTE HIS OWN
FLESH AND BLOOD!



BUT ENOUGH! YOU SAID GORDON WAS IN
TROUBLE, WHICH I ASSUME TO MEAN
WITH THESE SAME LIZARD MUTANTS!

LAR, KEEP WATCH
ON HER! THE REST
OF US WILL PRO-
CEED SILENTLY!



WHILE ELSEWHERE, INSIDE THE CITY...

IF SILITH WASN'T BLUFFING AND DALE IS--
I WANT TO SCREAM... BUT I'VE GOT TO
REMAIN CALM!



I'LL GET EVEN-- BELIEVE IT--
BUT FIRST I'VE GOT TO GET
ZARKOV OUT OF HERE!



THIS OUGHT TO HELP!...
IT'S THE POWER PACK
TO MY BLASTER! I
PALMED IT WHEN I
SURRENDERED
THE WEAPON!

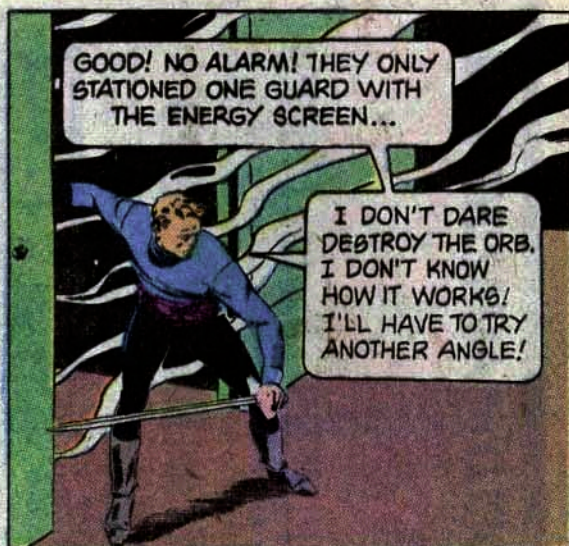


NOW, IF I CAN
JUST ACTIVATE...

...IT!

SKKRAAKK!







IN THE MINDLIFE CHAMBER...

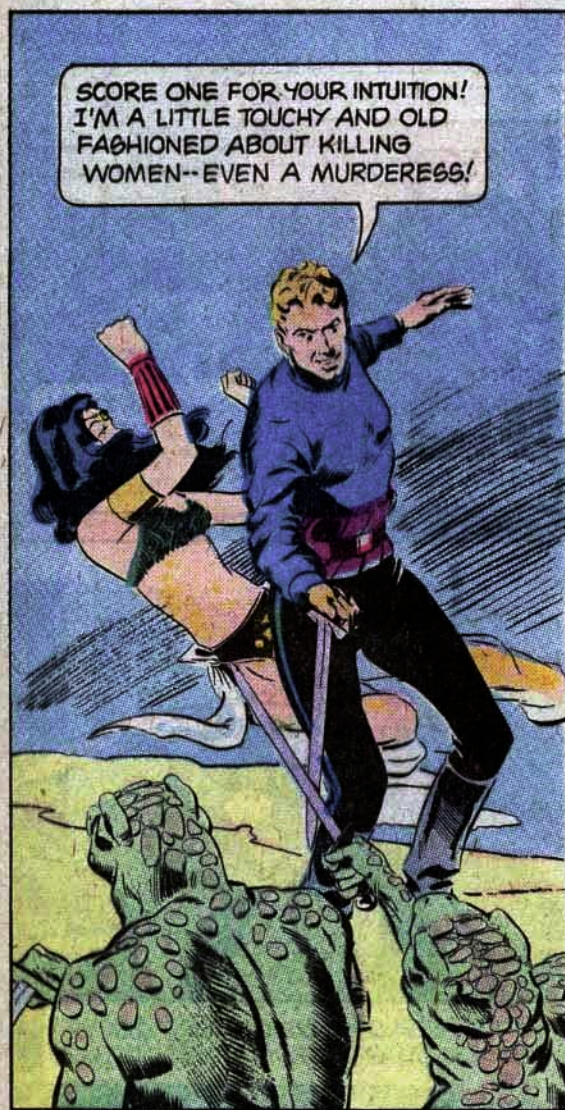
HOLD BE STILL!
YOU CANNOT
ESSCAPE!

STOP!!

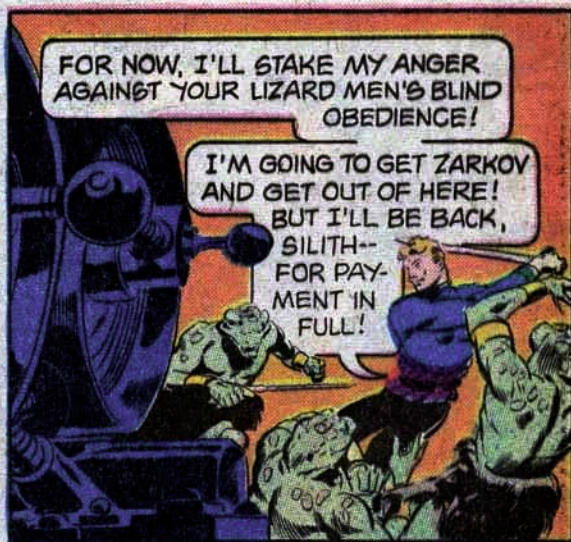


BACK OFF! DROP YOUR SWORDS
AND CLEAR BACK! ONE WRONG MOVE
AND YOU'LL LOSE
YOUR QUEEN!

IGNORE HIM! HE'S BLUFFING! HE'S
WEAK AND WILL NOT STRIKE DOWN
A HELPLESS OPPONENT!



SCORE ONE FOR YOUR INTUITION!
I'M A LITTLE TOUCHY AND OLD
FASHIONED ABOUT KILLING
WOMEN--EVEN A MURDERESS!



FOR NOW, I'LL STAKE MY ANGER
AGAINST YOUR LIZARD MEN'S BLIND
OBEDIENCE!


I'M GOING TO GET ZARKOV
AND GET OUT OF HERE!
BUT I'LL BE BACK,
SILTH--
FOR PAYMENT IN
FULL!



UNFORTUNATELY, I CANNOT AFFORD
THE LUXURY OF WAITING!

AND I ASSURE
YOU, QUEEN, I
DON'T **BLUFF!**






I APPRECIATE THE
RESPECT, WARLORD,
BUT I CAN'T
RETURN IT...

... NOT FOR
SOMEONE WHO
WILLINGLY
SERVES MING!




GUNSSS DON'T
SHOOT! ATTACK?

NO! MORE IMPORTANT
TO GET MAN ZZZARKOV!



MING IS
FIRM-- HE
SHOWS NO
MERCY!

BUT MING
IS STRONG!

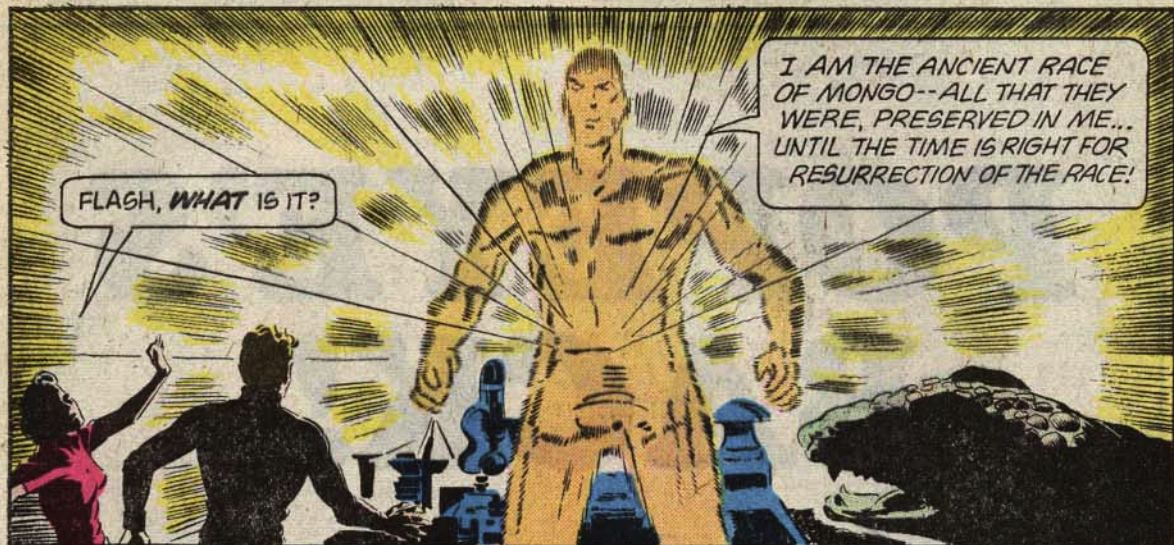


WHAT DO WE DO? THE LIZARDS ARE
GETTING EDGY!

WE'D BETTER TRY TO GET TO ZARKOV!
WE'VE GOT TO GET THAT HELMET
OFF HIM!







FLASH, *WHAT* IS IT?

I AM THE ANCIENT RACE OF MONGO--ALL THAT THEY WERE, PRESERVED IN ME... UNTIL THE TIME IS RIGHT FOR RESURRECTION OF THE RACE!

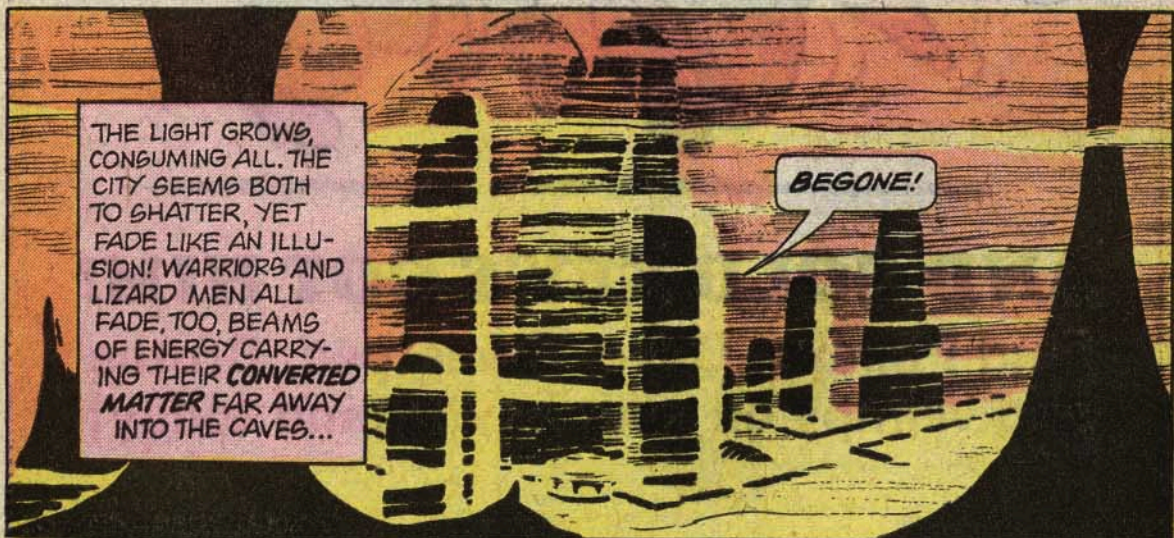


THE TIME IS NOT RIGHT, YET YOU FILL THESE HALLS WITH VIOLENCE AND CALL UPON ME... MAKING DEMANDS, TRY MY PATIENCE, DRAIN MY RESOURCES!



ZARKOV HAD TO DRAIN THE ORB'S POWER-- TO PROTECT IT! IF YOU COULD JUST--

I CARE NOT FOR YOUR PETTY SKIRMISHES! YOU MAY CARRY THEM ON, BUT SHALL DO SO ELSEWHERE!



THE LIGHT GROWS, CONSUMING ALL. THE CITY SEEMS BOTH TO SHATTER, YET FADE LIKE AN ILLUSION! WARRIORS AND LIZARD MEN ALL FADE, TOO, BEAMS OF ENERGY CARRYING THEIR **CONVERTED MATTER** FAR AWAY INTO THE CAVES...

BEGONE!

MOMENTS LATER...

AT EASE! GORDON HAS GIVEN US THE SLIP! WE FOUND NO TRACE OF HIM. WE'D BEST PULL BACK AND OUT!

AND YET SOMETHING IN THE BACK OF MY MIND--

WARLORD, SIR!
HAIL MING!

WHILE AT A
POINT SOME-
WHERE INSIDE...

HEY, WE MUST HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP--
A FEW HOURS HAVE PASSED! WE CAN
TRY THE SURFACE AGAIN!

UHH! MY ANKLE...
I MUST HAVE
SLEPT ON IT
WRONG!

FROM ABOVE, TWO EYES WATCH THE
DEPARTURE. THERE IS A FAINT GLIMMER
OF RECOGNITION! IT HAD BEEN A QUEEN
AND A PRIESTESS ONCE, BUT IT NO
LONGER REMEMBERS...OR CARES! THE
LIZARD CURLS BACK TO RETURN TO
SEARCHING FOR EDIBLE FUNGI...

NO PATROLS!
ALL OF MING'S
ROCKETS HAVE
DEPARTED! WE
CAN TRAVEL ON!

FOR NOW! BUT
TRAVEL ON WHERE?
WE DON'T KNOW
WHERE WE ARE
...WE ONLY KNOW
THAT MING HAS
RETURNED,
PROBABLY TO
FULL POWER!

WHICH MEANS THAT OUR WAR STARTS
ALL OVER AGAIN! HEAVEN HELP
MONGO IF WE FAIL!

THE END